Long waiting time for surgery in AIIMS

3513. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the main factors responsible for the long waiting time for surgery in All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) inspite of very high doctor-patient ratio;

(b) the number of patients admitted for surgery and how many of them were operated during the last three years; and

(c) how Government are contemplating to reduce this gap and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The main factors responsible for long waiting time for Surgery in the AIIMS are:—

(i) Too many patients coming to OPD need admission and Surgery;
(ii) Shortage of beds to admit patients for Surgery;
(iii) Shortage of Operation Theatre time.

(b) As per information received from AIIMS, the patients admitted for surgery and major operations performed during the last three years are as under:—

Year	No. of Admission	No. of major Operations
1998-1999	25411	14443
1999-2000	29245	17051
2000-2001	30681	16969

(c) Waiting time can be reduced by improving the infrastructure of AIIMS as well as other hospitals in the city and States from where the patients come.

Prevalence of Measles

3514. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Measles claims 13 lives in Tripura," which appeared in the Indian Express, dated the 23rd February, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the prevalence of Measles in other parts of the country in general and Tamil Nadu, in particular; and